

Message Text

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64

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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P R 160930Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8933

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO JCS

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 4619

EXDIS

JOINT EMBASSY/UNC MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, KS, KN

SUBJECT: SENIOR MEMBER MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION

REF: A. COMUSK 020050Z JUL 73 B. CINCPAC 140312Z JULY 73

1. IN VIEW POLITICAL SITUATION HERE IN AFTERMATH
PRESIDENT PARK'S JUNE 23 FOREIGN POLICY
INITIATIVE, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT SENIOR MAC MEMBER BE
ASSIGNED AS RECOMMENDED REF A. DUAL HATTING OF GENERAL
OFFICER ALREADY PERFORMING OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES IN
ROK WOULD INEVITABLY BE INTERPRETED BY ROKG, NORTH
KOREANS, AND OTHERS, AS A SIGNAL WE ARE MOVING
TOWARDS DISMANTLING COMMAND. GIVEN PRESENT STATE OF
PLAY, SUCH A "SIGNAL" COULD PREMATURELY COMPROMISE OUR
POSITION ON UNC IN UNGA DELIBERATIONS AND IN ANY
NEGOTIATIONS WITH COMMUNIST POWERS.

2. CONSEQUENTLY, RECOMMEND THAT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH
PAST PRACTICE, MAJOR GENERAL BE ASSIGNED TDY AS
SENIOR MEMBER FOR NEXT SIX MONTHS. THIS WOULD BE WITH
UNDERSTANDING THAT ONCE WE ARE THROUGH UNGA CONSIDERA-
TION KOREAN QUESTION, WE WILL REVIEW NEED FOR
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ANY FUTURE ASSIGNMENTS OF FULL-TIME SENIOR MEMBER.

3. CINCPAC HAS RAISED OBJECTIONS TO ABOVE
RECOMMENDATION (REF B). DO NOT BELIEVE VARIOUS
POLITICAL AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS RAISED BY CINCPAC
ARE VALID. CINCPAC HAS MISINTERPRETED FOREIGN MINISTER
KIM'S COMMENTS REGARDING EVENTUAL TRANSFER OF
ARMISTICE AGREEMENT RESPONSIBILITY TO ROK (SEE SEOUL 4439).
WOULD NOTE ALSO THAT IN PAST TEMPORARY
DUTY FULL-TIME MAC SENIOR MEMBERS HAVE CARRIED OUT
FAR MORE DEMANDING TASKS THAN WOULD BE REQUIRED AT
PRESENT TIME.

4. FOR CINCPAC: EMBASSY MESSAGE REFERRED TO REF B
WAS EXDIS. SPECAT HANDLING PROCEDURES SHOULD BE
FOLLOWED.
HABIB

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